

## **COVID-19 Amendment to St. Peter's Preschool's 2020-21 Parent Handbook**

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, St. Peter's Preschool is making an amendment to its 2020-21 Parent Handbook to incorporate the following policies.

As a condition of your child's enrollment at St. Peter's Preschool, all parents are required to sign the enclosed Acknowledgement of Handbook Amendment and COVID-19 Release and Waiver of Liability (only the last page needs to be returned to the director).

### **Drop-Off Procedures**

MSDE guidance states that parents will not be allowed to enter the school to drop-off children at this time, so check-ins/symptom screening will be done outside the double red doors by the director.

All staff and parents will be masked during check-in. Masks for children are optional.

There will be staggered arrival times for each class. Families will line up on socially distant markers for check-in. (As we get more efficient, we may be able to do away with staggered arrival times.)

Parents will answer screening questions prior to drop-off via Google Form.

Every child's temperature will be taken with a non-contact thermometer, either the parent's own thermometer or the school's thermometer.

If the screening is passed, the child will be taken into school by a teacher.

Children will wash hands immediately upon entering the classrooms.

### **Daily Health Check**

All students will be required to pass a daily health check before being allowed entry to the school. This will take the form of a parent-completed Google Form prior to arrival and temperature check upon arrival at school. Students must be free from any symptoms of COVID-19, including but not limited to the following:

- Fever - (100.4° F or above)
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion
- Runny nose
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue/malaise
- Headaches
- Body aches
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell

Students with close prolonged contact with someone who has COVID-19 (confirmed or suspected) will also not be granted entry to school.

## **Zero Tolerance Illness Policy**

St. Peter's will be instituting a new policy of "zero tolerance" for any illness symptom. We realize that many of the symptoms of COVID-19 can be indications of other illnesses, from the common cold to flu to allergies. However, our plan to proceed with an abundance of caution is aimed at keeping everyone as safe as possible and to prevent unnecessary school closures.

### **NO STUDENT WITH ANY SIGN OF ILLNESS WILL BE ADMITTED TO SCHOOL WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S NOTE STATING THEY ARE FREE FROM COVID-19.**

If your child develops any COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, they will be separated from other children/staff, and you will be required to pick them up within 30 minutes of being contacted.

If your child develops any symptoms while at home, PLEASE KEEP THEM AT HOME and notify your child's teacher or the director as soon as possible.

## **Possible Closure Scenarios**

Any staff or student who comes to school exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be granted entry.

The presence of COVID-19 symptoms mandates a call to the Maryland Health Department and the Office of Child Care for further guidance. Depending on the severity of the symptoms, St. Peter's could be required to close for anywhere from 2 days to 14+ days.

If a child or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, they may return to school after 3 days have passed since their recovery and at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared.

Anyone who is quarantined due to close contact with a positive or probable case of COVID-19 may return to school 14 days after the person who was sick/potentially sick is released from isolation.

Anyone who exhibited illness symptoms wishing to return to school before completing a 14 day self-quarantine must provide a doctor's note indicating they are cleared to return to school.

If anyone in the school tests positive for COVID-19, the school will be professionally deep-cleaned by an outside cleaning company prior to reopening.

Tuition and cleaning fee payments for school closures up to 2 weeks will not be refunded. Refunds for closures over 2 weeks will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **Enhanced Safety Procedures**

- Only 1 class at each age level
- 2's maximum of 12 students, 3's maximum of 15 students, and 4's maximum of 16 students
- Masks for teachers (masks optional for kids)
- Daily symptom screening before entry into school
- Classes kept separate
- No parents/volunteers in classroom
- No field trips/in school field trips
- No large gatherings like Pizza Ice Cream Social, Donuts with Dads, etc.

- Classes held outside as much as possible
- Open windows/run fans
- Removal of rugs/soft toys that are hard to disinfect
- Rotate books/puzzles that are hard to disinfect between uses (Monday bin, Tuesday bin, etc.)
- Individual art supplies for each child (markers, pencils, scissors, etc.) in their cubby
- Individual, single-use playdough
- Individual sensory tubs instead of shared sensory tables
- Physical distancing during snack/lunch
- Waterbottles brought in and sent home daily
- Snack and milk served by teachers
- Lunches brought from home in lunchboxes with ice packs, kept in cubbies
- Staggered entry times to school
- Different dismissal areas for each class: 2's/3's at the playground gate, 4's near the orange cones
- Keep your entire family safe when not in school (practice social distancing, wear masks, avoid large gatherings of people, etc.)

### **Enhanced Cleaning Procedures**

- Frequent handwashing
- Hand sanitizer used by staff, supervised limited use by children
- Cleaning/disinfecting high touch surfaces multiple times a day
- Cleaning/disinfecting toys daily
- Cleaning/disinfecting playground between classes
- Cleaning/disinfecting bathrooms daily
- Separate toys for each class

### **COVID-19 Cleaning Fee**

Due to the extra time and expense required to follow CDC and MSDE cleaning guidance, St. Peter's will be charging a monthly COVID-19 cleaning fee. I realize this is an unexpected extra expense, but we take very seriously our pledge to keep everyone as safe as possible. This charge may fluctuate as the guidelines change or as the time needed to clean items change. Thank you for your understanding. If this presents a financial difficulty for your family, please see the director.

- 2's - \$30/month
- 3's - \$40/month
- 4's - \$50/month

### **Required Forms and Immunizations**

Per MSDE guidance, all student immunizations must be up to date to start school. All required school forms, including health forms, are due at/before Meet the Teacher Day.

**Parent Handbook Amendment Acknowledgement**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the COVID-19 Amendment to St. Peter's Preschool's 2020-21 Parent Handbook and that I agree to abide by the policies included. I acknowledge that failure to act in accordance with the provisions listed in the Amendment or with any policy/procedure outlined in the St. Peter's Preschool 2020-21 Parent Handbook may result in termination of services. I acknowledge that care for my child(ren) may be terminated if it is determined that my actions, or lack thereof, unnecessarily exposes another employee, child, or their family member to COVID-19.

**COVID-19 Waiver of Liability**

I understand that while present in school my child will be in contact with children and teachers who are also at risk of community exposure. I understand that no list of restrictions, guideline,s or practices will remove 100% of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 as the virus can be transmitted by persons who are asymptomatic and before some people show signs of infection. I understand that I play a crucial role in keeping everyone in the school safe and reducing the risk of exposure by following the practices outlined in the Amendment.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at St. Peter's Preschool ("Claims") arising from COVID-19 or related illness.

On my behalf, and on behalf of my child(ren), I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless St. Peter's Preschool and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, their employees, agents, and representatives, of and from any Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out from COVID-19 or related illness.

I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence by St. Peter's Preschool, as well as their employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after attendance at St. Peter's Preschool.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_